



Tempe Art in Private Development



Emerald Center

Phase I & II

8475 S. Emerald Drive

David Brant

Arts & Crafts, 2006

Rusted steel

Artist Website:

www.idea-ashtreestudios.blogspot.com

Photo: Craig Smith

Description: The Emerald Design Center provides commercial space for businesses that are engaged in some aspect of home furnishing, which was used as inspiration for the artwork. Scenes of craftsmen and artists in positive/negative steel plate images about eight feet in height are found at five locations along the pedestrian routes of the malls. The streetscape of Emerald Drive is enhanced with the view of an artist's garden wherein a painter with easel can be seen from the street. One of the display cases is punctuated with an abstract steel paintbrush that is engaged with the side of the frame. This abstraction is further enhanced with a splattering of numerous colors of acid-based concrete stains. As visitors move into the project they discover the on-going activities of furniture makers and a slate tile installer. *Arts & Crafts* earned the Emerald Center team a Beautification Award for Art in Private Development Excellence in 2007.

Artist biography: Since the 1970's, Brant has been designing and fabricating sculpture and architectural installation art throughout the western United States. He was formally educated in landscape architecture and trained in a variety of artistic arenas. For 20 years prior to the formation of the company IDEA, Brant held responsible positions with design firms throughout Phoenix and Southern California, and was a founding partner in a major southwest landscape architecture firm. Brant is responsible for all aspects of IDEA's projects, utilizing his award-winning experience in project theming and story rendition through landscape architecture, urban design, architecture, public art and graphic design.

Funding: This project was funded by the individual developer, LGE Design Build, as a requirement of Tempe's Art in Private Development Ordinance.